

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1433

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a system for defining the scope of energy research and development projects, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 29, 1995

Mr. MCCAIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a system for defining the scope of energy research and development projects, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. PROJECT DEFINITION SYSTEM.**

4 (a) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term “significant
5 research and development project” means a project for the
6 conduct of research for increasing knowledge on energy
7 matters or for a new energy technology or development
8 of an energy technology, the cost of which to the Secretary
9 is expected to exceed \$1,000,000, that—

1 (1) if the research or development is to be per-
2 formed under a grant, contract, or cooperative
3 agreement, will require the issuance of a new grant,
4 contract, or cooperative agreement or an amendment
5 to, change order under, or direction to perform work
6 under an outstanding grant, contract, or cooperative
7 agreement; or

8 (2) if the research or development is to be per-
9 formed by employees of the Department of Energy,
10 constitutes a discrete line of research or development
11 that is not an essential part of another line of re-
12 search or development previously undertaken.

13 (b) PROJECT DEFINITION SYSTEM.—The Secretary
14 of Energy shall establish a project definition system for
15 the purpose of defining the scope of significant research
16 and development projects initiated after the date of enact-
17 ment of this Act.

18 (c) PROJECT DEFINITION DOCUMENTS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The project definition sys-
20 tem shall require that the officer of the Department
21 of Energy in charge of a significant research and de-
22 velopment project prepare a project definition docu-
23 ment for the project.

24 (2) CONTENTS.—A project definition document
25 shall describe—

1 (A) the problem or need to be addressed by
2 the project;

3 (B) the goals of the project;

4 (C) the estimated cost of the project;

5 (D) any cost sharing for the project;

6 (E) future users or beneficiaries of project
7 results;

8 (F) the expected duration of the project;

9 (G) the expected outcome of the project;

10 (H) any cost savings that are expected to
11 be achieved through application of project re-
12 sults;

13 (I) procedures to be followed in conducting
14 the project;

15 (J) areas of a high level of risk or uncer-
16 tainty;

17 (K) interface with other research and de-
18 velopment projects and existing technologies;
19 and

20 (L) criteria for ending the project or end-
21 ing government support of the project.

22 (d) APPROVAL.—A project definition document shall
23 require the approval of an Assistant Secretary of Energy
24 or other officer of the Department of Energy at the level
25 of assistant secretary.

1 (e) NO FUNDING WITHOUT DOCUMENT.—A signifi-
2 cant research and development project shall not receive
3 funding prior to approval of a project definition document
4 for the project.

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